

What's New - June 9, 2006

Significant Documents

10 Most Censored Countries.

[Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Special Report] May 2, 2006. [html format, 7 printed pages]

[2006] Annual Report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

[U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, Annual Report] May 2006. [pdf format, 260 pages]

2006 Atlantic Hurricane Outlook.

[United States Department of Commerce, National Weather Service, Climate Prediction Center, Annual Report]

May 22, 2006. [html format, 5 printed pages]

2006 Comprehensive Report on U.S. Trade and Investment Policy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa and Implementation

of the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

[Executive Office of the President. Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), Annual Report] May 16, 2006.

[pdf format, 151 pages]

2006 State of College Admission.

[National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), Annual Report]. May 17, 2006. [pdf format, 86 pages]

The End of Child Labour: Within Reach.

[International Labour Organization (ILO), International Labour Conference, 95th Session 2006, Report I (B)]

May 4, 2006. [pdf format, 100 pages]

Financial Access for Immigrants: Lessons from Diverse Perspectives.

[Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Brookings Institution] May 2006. [pdf format, 106 pages]

Follow the Leader: Learning from Experience and Best Practice in Regional Fisheries Management Organizations.

[WWF International and TRAFFIC International, Report] Web-posted May 19, 2006. [pdf format, 64 pages]

Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean 2005.

[United Nations, Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Annual Report] April 2006.

[English-language version, pdf format, 171 pages]

[Spanish-languages version, pdf format, 189 pages]

Free Trade Agreements: Impact on U.S. Trade and Implications for U.S. Trade Policy.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL31356] April 19, 2006. [pdf format, 19 pages]

Freedom of the Press 2006: A Global Survey of Media Independence.

[Freedom House, Annual Report] Web-posted April 27, 2006.

Narrative Country Reports: [pdf format, 190 pages]

Global Ranking Table: [pdf format, 6 pages]

Regional Ranking Tables: [pdf format, 9 pages]

Freedom of the Press Worldwide in 2006. [Reporters Without Borders, Annual Report] May 2006.

[English-language version, pdf format, 153 pages]

[French-language version, pdf format, 154 pages]

[Spanish-language version, pdf format, 154 pages]

Getting to the CORE: A Global Survey on the Cost of Registration and Elections.

[United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and IFES Report] May 18, 2006. [pdf format, 212 pages]

Government Access to Phone Calling Activity and Related Records: Legal Authorities.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL33424] May 17, 2006. [pdf format, 19 pages]

Health Financing Revisited: A Practitioner's Guide.

[World Bank, Manual] May 25, 2006. Full Report: [pdf format, 324 pages] Overview: [pdf format, 21 pages]

Little Green Data Book 2006.

[World Bank, Annual Report] April 2006. [pdf format, 240 pages]

Military Power of the People's Republic of China 2006. Annual Report to Congress.

[United States Department of Defense, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Annual Report] May 23, 2006.

[pdf format, 58 pages]

NATO and Energy Security.

[CRS Report for Congress, RS22409] March 21, 2006. [pdf format, 6 pages]

The Nuclear Dilemma and Lessons from Chernobyl.

[Federation of American Scientists (FAS)] April 2006. [pdf format, 17 pages]

Preparing for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza: A Manual for Countries at Risk.

[Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Manual]

Updated 16 February 2006. [pdf format, 44 pages]

Reposturing the Force: U.S. Overseas Presence in the Twenty-first Century.

[United States Department of the Navy. Naval War College, Newport Papers No. 26] 2006. [pdf format, 202 pages]

Russia.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL33407] May 8, 2006. [pdf format, 21 pages]

Russia's Accession to the WTO.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL31979] Updated April 20, 2006. [pdf format, 28 pages]

Saving Lives: Children's Right to HIV and AIDS Treatment. [Global Movement for Children, Reportl May 26, 2006.

[English-language version, pdf format, 20 pages]

[French-language version, pdf format, 24 pages]

[Spanish-language version, pdf format, 23 pages]

Social Unrest in China.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL33416]. May 8, 2006. [pdf format, 19 pages]

Status of Tropical Forest Management 2005.

[International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Technical Series No 24] May 23, 2006. [pdf format, 305 pages]

Supporting Human Rights and Democracy: The U.S. Record 2005 - 2006.

[United States Department of State: Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Annual Report] April 2006.

[pdf format, 272 pages]

Third Annual BSA and IDC Global Software Piracy Study.

[Business Software Association (BSA); IDC, Annual Report] Web-posted May 23, 2006.

[English-language version, pdf format, 21 pages]

[Chinese-language version, pdf format, 13 pages]

[Czech-language version, pdf format, 20 pages]

[Portuguese-language version, pdf format, 20 pages]

[Slovak-language version, pdf format, 20 pages]

[Spanish-language version, pdf format, 20 pages]

Trafficking In Persons: Global Patterns.

[United Nations, Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Annual Report] April 2006 [pdf format, 128 pages]

U.S. and International Responses to the Global Spread of Avian Flu: Issues for Congress.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL33219] Updated May 1, 2006.

[pdf format, 37 pages]

U.S. Immigration Policy on Permanent Admissions.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL33181] Updated April 17, 2006. [pdf format, 30 pages]

The Use of the Internet by Islamic Extremists: Testimony presented to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, on May 4, 2006.

[RAND Corporation, Testimony series No. CT-262-1] Web-posted May 10, 2006. [pdf format, 23 pages]

WTO: Antidumping Issues in the Doha Development Agenda.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL32810] Updated April 20, 2006. [pdf format, 24 pages]

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

THE FAILED STATES INDEX (Foreign Policy, No. 154, May/June 2006, pp. 50-58) The staff of Foreign Policy magazine and the Fund for Peace present the second annual Failed States Index, noting that 2005 should have been a good year for developing states around the world, yet "trends that should have been boons for stability have often been busts." They emphasize that there are few quick fixes -- elections do not ensure effective governance, and high commodity prices don't necessarily build strong institutions. Nation-building by outsiders is time-consuming and costly, and while there have been a few successes, most countries will be on their own. They note that it is impossible to predict which countries may implode, but "it is essential for policymakers to understand the vulnerabilities and weaknesses that create the conditions for state failure." As with last year's index, the authors ranked 148 countries by twelve indicators; the sixty most vulnerable states are published in the journal, and full results are available online at www.foreignpolicy.com and www.fundforpeace.org.

Cannon, Carl M. HOW REPUBLICANS CAN GET THEIR GROOVE BACK (National Journal, May 13, 2006, pp. 24-30)

As the November election gets near, the Republicans are feeling the lack of support even from traditionally Republican districts, according to Cannon. GOP political consultant Roger Stone agrees, noting that "parties are always defined by their leaders...that means this is going to be a tough midterm." Possible remedies, such as developing culture of ethics to gain trust back from the people, showing fiscal restraint, and taking care of Iraq, even if it means seeking help from other countries are discussed. Overall, none of these can be accomplished in a short period of time. Cannon concludes that perhaps after 12 years of GOP congressional rule, people are ready for change.

Crowley, Michael **FLOATERS** (New Republic, Vol. 234, No. 4765, May 15, 2006, pp. 12-13) This piece asserts that some politicians use rumors of a presidential run as a means of personal gain. Crowley points to cases of senators 'floating' their names as possible presidential candidates to increase their power on Capitol Hill. Politicians involved in scandals may use the rumors of a presidential run to prove their competence and return to the good graces of their constituents. Finally, politicians on the speaker circuit or on book tours float a possible race to capitalize on the instant fame of the White House, hoping audiences will open their wallets to read the thoughts of a future president. Crowley worries that the practice of floating may trivialize presidential campaigns and undermine the efforts of well-meaning fringe candidates with a serious message to convey.

Hamilton, Don THE OREGON VOTING REVOLUTION: HOW A VOTE-BY-MAIL EXPERIMENT TRANSFORMED THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS (American Prospect, vol. 17, no. 5, May 2006, pp. A3-A7)

In June 1993, Oregon held its first statewide election entirely by mail, and since then, vote-by-mail in Oregon is the only method of voting for all elections, local or state. In 2000, Oregon became the first state to vote for a president solely on a mail ballot and today vote-by-mail in Oregon is widely supported old news. Vote-by-mail makes it more convenient for people to vote and can increase turnout by as much as 10 percent, political journalist Hamilton writes, although vote-by-mail tends to retain existing voters rather than recruit new voters. Voter turnout was 71 percent in 1996, the last polling-place election in Oregon, Hamilton writes, but 86 percent in 2004. According to Hamilton, studies show that no single political party benefits or suffers from mail balloting; vote-by-mail helps the well-organized, which can be said about a polling-place election as well. Mail voting saves money, according to an elections supervisor in Oregon, eliminating the expense of moving voting machines, hiring and training elections workers and opening and

maintaining polling places. Concerns about mail balloting center on ballots going astray and improper balloting. Oregon employs a signature match program that is intended to catch improper signatures, according to Hamilton.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Djankov, Simeon; Montalvo, Jose G.; Reynal-Querol, Marta DOES FOREIGN AID HELP? (Cato Journal, vol. 26, no. 1, Winter 2006, pp. 1-28)

The authors believe that foreign aid has a negative impact on the democratic stance of developing countries, and on economic growth, by reducing investment, increasing government consumption, and reducing the level of democracy of the recipient countries. Alternatives exist, for example, in the manner in which aid is disbursed. However, there is very little documented evidence on the effectiveness of foreign aid that aid has much of an impact on economic development. Loans induce a more effective use of the funds because they have to be returned while remittances and private assistance have also proven to be positive steps in fostering growth and investment, but the increasing number of participants to the aid market and the potentially conflicting goals of donors further contributes to the ineffectiveness of aid. They note that the effectiveness of foreign aid can be improved by increasing the responsibility of recipient countries, reducing the cost of remittances to developing countries, and improving the coordination of donors.

Lei, Wu; Qinyu, Shen WILL CHINA GO TO WAR OVER OIL? (Far Eastern Economic Review, vol. 169, no. 3, April 2006, p. 38-40)

China's quest for energy security, conducted through aggressive "bilateral energy diplomacy" has attracted worldwide attention, write the authors. Energy security is playing an increasingly important role in Sino-U.S. relations, they note, as China makes oil deals with "rogue states" such as the Sudan and Iran, and seeks deals in Latin America. However, the U.S. and China are not really in direct competition on many energy issues, they write, and common interest in stabilizing energy supply and price provides a strong incentive to exercise strategic cooperation. China is more concerned about the Taiwan issue and fears the U.S. could cut off "oil lifelines" should there ever be a showdown over Taiwan independence, they explain. China needs to remember that energy security is a global issue and no single oil-importing country is immune from an oil crisis, they advise. Further, they recommend that the U.S. and its allies should gradually lead Beijing onto the right path by bringing China into the International Energy Agency in order to turn China's unilateral energy policy into a multilateral one which would help prevent future oil crises and minimize energy security risks.

Levine, Ruth IN WORLD BANK CORRUPTION FIGHT, INDEPENDENT EVALUATION IS KEY (CGD Notes, April 2006, 2 pp.)

Levine, Director of Programs at the Center for Global Development, says World Bank president Paul Wolfowitz has set out his plans for fighting corruption in the developing world. She says his anti-corruption crusade is both positive and ambitious. However, she asks, how will we know whether the anti-corruption programs actually work? Evaluation should be emphasized from the start, she asserts; development agencies have consistently failed to measure the impact of their aid programs. Levine states that donor and recipient countries should request and fund careful, credible and independent third-party evaluation of World Bank and other agencies' programs. Only through evaluation, she explains, can we document a program's impact on transparency and development.

Van Gelder, Alec **FASHION AND FOREIGN AID: A REALISTIC LOOK AT THE "DIGITAL DIVIDE"** (Review - Institute of Public Affairs, Vol. 58, No. 1, April 2006, p. 31-34)The hype and the attention devoted to the digital divide risks diverting scarce resources away from efforts that

really matter to improving the lot of the poor, writes van Gelder. It is true that information and communications technology (ICT) remain inaccessible for the vast majority of the poor, he says, but other development indicators -- necessary predecessors to productive use of ICT -- such as clean water and air, reliable sources of energy, high-quality education, and rule of law are also lacking in these countries. There are successful examples of ICT use in poor countries, but he questions the wisdom of placing too much emphasis on the digital divide in places that lack free institutions and basic living standards.

GLOBAL ISSUES / INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Alley, William TRACKING U.S. GROUNDWATER: RESERVES FOR THE FUTURE? (Environment, vol. 48, no. 3, April 2006, pp. 10-25)The author, chief of the Office of Ground Water at the U.S. Geological Survey, notes that because groundwater is invisible, it is taken for granted. In recent decades, as the human population and its demands on water supplies has increased, so has groundwater depletion, spreading from isolated pockets to large regions in many countries around the world. The growing awareness of groundwater supplies as a critical natural resource has raised concerns about better monitoring and management. Alley notes that in the U.S., groundwater management decisions are usually made at a local or state level; however, underground aquifers often cross jurisdictional lines, which drives the need for a national or multi-jurisdictional effort. He notes that the general location and size of the aquifers is known, but that insufficient data has been collected, which hampers the decision-making process after problems have materialized. He argues that long-term monitoring of groundwater supplies is essential to ensure that problems can be addressed before they reach the crisis stage.

Cassidy, John RELATIVELY DEPRIVED: HOW POOR IS POOR? (New Yorker, April 3, 2006) Until the 1960s, the federal government had never attempted to estimate the number of American households living in poverty. Many of the anti-poverty programs started during Pres. Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" initiative were based on the work of a pioneering statistician at the U.S. Social Security Administration, who had done studies of how much it would cost for a family to eat a nutritious diet at minimal cost, and then calculated poverty rates based on income data. The author notes that despite substantial growth in the U.S. economy in the ensuing decades, the poverty rates have remained basically unchanged. The poor in the U.S. may have more material possessions and may have income that is very high compared with the developing world -- but the American poor have chronic health problems unseen in many much poorer parts of the world. Cassidy notes that the notion of relative deprivation has been known since the time of Adam Smith, and the physiological stress induced by unequal income has been documented in many studies in multiple countries. He argues for the relative-deprivation factor to be taken into account in the federal government's assistance programs, but doubts that there is much enthusiasm for it at the policymaking level.

Kelly, Kevin **SCAN THIS BOOK!** (New York Times Magazine, May 14, 2006, pp. 43-71) The idea for a "universal library" of all the world's knowledge dates back at least to the legendary library at Alexandria, Egypt, in 300 B.C. Today that idea is being revived by the search engine company Google, which is currently scanning all the several million books in five major research libraries. These books eventually will be linked in the same manner as articles and web pages now accessible through Internet search engines. Author Kevin Kelly, the "senior maverick" for Wired magazine, looks at the implications of this astonishing project. "The static world of book knowledge is about to be transformed by the same elevation of relationships [as on linked web pages], as each page in a book discovers other pages and other books. Once text is digital, books seep out of their bindings and weave themselves together. The collective intelligence of a library allows us to see things we can't see in a single, isolated book." The new universal library will not be limited to books, the article explains, and Google is not the only company scanning books. Copyright restrictions, and the the fact that ownership of many books is unclear, are

obstacles that may slow but will not stop the move from static printed pages in books to the fluid, interlinked World Wide Web.

Platt, Rutherford URBAN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT: SUSTAINABILITY, ONE STREAM AT A TIME (Environment, vol. 48, no. 4, May 2006, pp. 26-42)

The author, professor of geography at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, writes that modern cities have tended to cut the bonds between humans and the natural world, at the same time have had a growing adverse impact on their natural surroundings. This has had the greatest impact on regional watersheds, from artificial drainage, channels and floodwalls, to increased impervious cover, which alters the local stream hydrology and increases flood hazards. Platt notes that the urban proportion of the world's population is projected to be 60 percent within a generation, overcoming this "human/nature apartheid" is critical in making urban environments more sustainable. The article features successful urban watershed management programs in Washington, D.C., Boston, Houston, and Portland, Oregon.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Conrad C. Crane **BEWARE OF BOLDNESS** (Parameters, Vol. 36, No. 2, Summer 2006, pp. 88-97)

The author, Director of the U.S. Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks, PA, and former history professor at West Point, argues against the recent emphasis on bold and innovative leaders in the military, saying, "Leaders, especially at higher levels, rarely need to be innovative themselves; instead, they must be prepared to recognize valuable contributions from others and incorporate them into the practices of the larger organization." He suggests "We may already be paying a price in Iraq for this new emphasis on boldness ... Instead of promoting boldness, we should be advocating the aggressive exploitation of opportunities, with due concern to mitigate risks." He proposes George Patton as a "fine role model for future leaders." In contrast, he says, "There has been no military leader in American history bolder than George Armstrong Custer, and his fate emphasizes the common eventual cost of boldness ... In the end, there is no substitute for decision-making based on a thorough evaluation of intelligence, comprehensive situational awareness, and sound judgment. Destiny is not a method."

De Maio, Jennifer MANAGING CIVIL WARS: AN EVALUATION OF CONFLICT PREVENTION STRATEGIES IN AFRICA (World Affairs, vol. 168, no. 3, Winter 2006, pp. 131-144 In a preliminary study, the author seeks to critically assess successes and failures in "preventative diplomacy" as applied by the international community in to Somalia (failure, 1988-91), Rwanda (failure, 1994), and South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal (success, 1994). De Maio concludes that in addition to the need for an "early warning system," to identify impending civil conflicts, nations need an effective analytical framework adapted to local conditions in order to correctly interpret the situation and form a winning mediation strategy. Domestic actors must be drawn into the preventive diplomacy proceedings and given incentives to stay engaged, typically the clear impression that violence will prove too costly to their long-term aims.

Drell, Sidney D. **THE SHADOW OF THE BOMB, 2006** (Policy Review, No. 136, April/May 2006, pp. 55-68)

The author fears that terrorists or rogue states are acquiring nuclear weapons, and wants the U.S. to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and also wants universal adherence to the International Atomic Energy Agency's Additional Protocol. However, some details are faulty, he asserts -- the number of nuclear weapon states hasn't grown in two decades, though Pakistan did not test a nuclear weapon until 1998. He labels the Proliferation Security Initiative, now nearly three years old, to be a mere proposal; he argues against a U.S. development of a nuclear earth-penetrating weapon, a program that the Bush administration dropped in October 2005. He argues that North Korea is currently violating the Agreed Framework, which in fact ended with

Pyongyang's 2002 assertion that it had secretly been building nuclear weapons for years. Available online at: http://www.policyreview.org/136/drell.html

Gormley, Dennis M. **CRUISE CONTROL** (Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, vol. 62, no. 2, March/April 2006, pp. 27-33)

Gormley calls attention to recent advances in cruise missiles, which he argues is a considerably greater strategic threat than ballistic missiles. Cruise missiles are cheaper, faster, and better at evading enemy defenses than ever before, says Gormley, as illustrated in recent progress by Pakistan, Taiwan, and Japan in upgrading their arsenals. By overlooking cruise missiles, strategic planners risk developing insufficient missile defense systems, incomplete export control regimes for on weapons components, and in an age where "doctrines of preemption" are becoming more widely accepted, a greater likelihood that adversaries may give into the temptation of using cruise missiles in hopes of rapidly resolving future conflicts.

Marshall, Andrew K. **MAKING A KILLING** (Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, vol. 62, no. 2, March/April 2006, pp. 36-42)

Marshall provides an expose on international illegal wildlife trafficking. Estimated at \$7-10 billion annually by INTERPOL, illicit trade in exotic pets, pelts, and animal parts (used in traditional medicines) not only places animals and their habitats at risk, it also reveals extensive networks of corruption among police and customs officials who facilitate the trade, as well as criminal smuggling networks who use the routes to smuggle other illicit commodities, including narcotics and weapons.

Ratliff, William **BEIJING'S PRAGMATISM MEETS HUGO CHAVEZ** (Brown Journal of World Affairs, vol. 12, no. 2, Winter/Spring 2006)

The author notes that China's pragmatic outlook leads it to strike deals with governments that clash with the U.S. and the international community. Ratliff explores China's relations with Venezuela and its president, Hugo Chavez. Chavez sees China as an example of how to "be a world power without being an empire" and claims to have a special relationship with China. China's main interest in Venezuela is due to its oil reserves; Beijing seeks to improve its relationships with Caribbean countries, but the violence suffered by some Chinese living in Venezuela has been an obstacle. Ultimately China would like to establish a commercial relationship with Venezuela, but it is not certain that Venezuela will ultimately be able to deliver large quantities of petroleum.

Sims, Nicholas BACK TO BASICS: STEERING CONTRUCTIVE EVOLUTION OF THE BWC (Arms Control Today, vol. 36, no. 3, April 2006, pp. 13-17)

The author points to the opportunity in November 2006 for the first full review of the 1975 Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) since 1991. The 155-member convention bans the development, acquisition or stockpiling of bacteriological or toxin weapons. Sims says that efforts to encourage states to sign and ratify the BWC have so far been "diffuse and spasmodic." Sims, who authored "The Evolution of Biological Disarmament" in 2001, notes that only 16 states have ratified the convention even though they signed it 30 years ago and more than 20 haven't even signed it yet. The writer says a scientific advisory body needs to be created to provide states that are party to the convention with expert information on scientific and technological developments relevant to the treaty. He also says it is important to build confidence in this still-vital treaty and in states' compliance with associated treaty obligations. He says it is essential for the sixth BWC Review Conference to produce a final declaration. His article is accompanied by sidebars on treaty verification as well as listings of states needing to ratify the treaty as well as non-signatories. The full text of the article may be viewed at: http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2006_04/bwcfeature.asp

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Kalina, Richard LICHTENSTEIN'S INDIAN TERRITORY (Art In America, April 2006, pp. 142-147)

Noted Pop artist Roy Lichtenstein's later work has been widely exhibited and studied, but relatively little attention has been paid to a body of work he created in the late 1970s and early 1980s, which contained imagery based on American Indian motifs. This group of paintings mirrors work he did in the 1950s, that drew heavily on Native American imagery. Kalina notes that Lichtenstein was "restlessly innovative", and the short duration of this body of work may mean that he found something else more compelling. The American Indian influence on his work is the subject of a current exhibition at the Montclair Art Museum in New Jersey.

Zeitz, Joshua THE FOUR: HOW CIRCUIT COURT JUSTICES FIRED AT JIM CROW FROM THE BENCH (American Legacy, vol. 12, no. 2, Summer 2006, pp. 61-70)

Zeitz profiles the lives and work of four justices of the Deep South's Federal Circuit Court: Richard Rives, John R. Brown, John Wisdom, and Elbert P. Tuttle. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, these four justices, "both individually and in various combinations," struck down many of the "Jim Crow" laws that had established mandatory segregation dating back to the mid-1870s. Despite being subjected to ostracism, late night calls, and death threats, they integrated universities and school districts, enforced legal protection for black voters, and opened up access to public places for African-Americans. These rulings, the author asserts, were responsible for "vastly broadening the freedoms enjoyed by black and white Americans alike and forcibly dragging the Deep South into the twentieth century."

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